Admission Test for Dental Hygiene (ATDH) Quick Facts

Name of Examination	Admission Test for Dental Hygiene (ATDH)
Purpose	The ATDH is an admission test designed to provide dental hygiene education programs with a means to assess an applicant's readiness and potential for success in these programs.
Applicants	The ATDH is intended for candidates who are interested in pursuing a career in dental hygiene and are currently seeking admission into a dental hygiene education program in the United States.
Content Domain and Test Specifications	The ATDH assesses critical thinking, focusing on candidate skills in the following areas: • Reading Comprehension • Language Usage • Quantitative Reasoning • Perceptual Ability • Biology • General Chemistry
Question Format	The ATDH is composed of multiple-choice test questions (items) presented in the English language. ATDH sample questions are currently being developed, and will be made available free of charge on the ATDH website as soon as they are completed: (http://www.ADA.org/ATDH).
Administration Dates	The ATDH will be administered in fixed administration windows throughout the year, beginning on September 1, 2021. Upcoming administration windows for the ATDH are listed below. **First Administration Window:** Wednesday, September 1 through Sunday, October 31, 2021, with examination results reported to candidates and programs no later than Wednesday, December 1, 2021. **"Retake Only" Window:** Wednesday, December 15, 2021 through Saturday, January 15, 2022, with examination results reported to candidates and programs no later than Friday, February 18, 2022. This window is intended to provide candidates an opportunity to retake the examination. **The "Retake Only" window is only available to candidates who attempted the ATDH during the first administration window** (September 1 through October 31, 2021). **Additional Future Administration Windows:** Wednesday, March 30 through Tuesday, May 31, 2022, with results reported to candidates and programs no later than Friday, July 1, 2022.
Eligibility	The ATDH is intended for candidates who are interested in pursuing a career in dental hygiene and are currently seeking admission into a dental hygiene education program in the United States. Additional details concerning

	candidate eligibility will be provided in the ATDH Candidate Guide which will be made available in the second quarter of 2021.
Administration Schedule	The ATDH contains 240 questions and requires 4 hours and 50 minutes to administer. The anticipated ATDH administration schedule is provided below. **ATDH Administration Schedule** | Section	Items	Minutes | |---|---|---| | Introduction and Tutorial | | 15 | | **Reading Comprehension** | 40 | 50 | | **Language Usage** | 40 | 30 | | Break | | 15 | | **Quantitative Reasoning** | 40 | 45 | | **Perceptual Ability** | 60 | 45 | | Break | | 15 | | **Biology** | 30 | 30 | | **General Chemistry** | 30 | 30 | | Post Examination Survey | | 15 | | **Total** | **240** | **290** |
Administration Vendor	The ATDH will be administered via computer at Prometric professional level testing centers. Prometric testing centers offer biometric security procedures and are located throughout the United States.
Cost	The ATDH fees for 2021 are as follows: • **Administration Fee: $125.** This fee includes administration and official score reporting to all dental hygiene education programs selected at the time of application. In the second quarter of 2021 the ATDH application will be made available in anticipation of the first ATDH administration window (September 2021). • **Score Report Fee: $25.** This fee covers score report requests made after the time of application. There is no additional charge for score report requests received at the time of application. • **Score Audit Fee (optional): $65.** For a period of 30 days after a completed testing appointment, the ATDH Program is willing to audit a candidate's ATDH results to confirm their accuracy.
General Policies and Procedures	Detailed policies and procedures for the ATDH Program are provided in the ATDH Candidate Guide. The Candidate Guide will be made available in the second quarter of 2021.
Results Reporting	ATDH results will typically be reported to candidates and dental hygiene education programs approximately five weeks after the close of each administration window. ATDH results will be reported as numeric scores that dental hygiene education programs can use to meaningfully compare the skills of applicants.
Retesting Policy	The ATDH Retest Policy is as follows: • Candidates are limited to one testing attempt per administration window. • The **"Retake Only" Window** (Wednesday, December 15, 2021 through Saturday, January 15, 2022) is reserved exclusively for candidates who wish to attempt the ATDH a second time.

	• Candidates who have had three or more ATDH attempts must apply to the ATDH Program for permission to test again. From that point forward, they may retest only once per 12-month period. • Candidates who are requesting additional testing beyond three attempts must submit their request in writing to the ATDH Program, and must include evidence of their demonstrated intent to apply to a dental hygiene education program.
Governance	In April 2020, the American Dental Association (ADA) Board of Trustees approved the formation of the ATDH Steering Committee, with Committee members appointed directly by the ADA President. The ATDH Steering Committee oversees the development, launch, and validation of the ATDH.
Validity and Technical Information	The ATDH is supported by content validity arguments. ATDH content has been developed by teams of highly qualified subject matter experts, working together to build examination questions that are capable of accurately and reliably identifying those who possess the skills necessary to successfully complete a dental hygiene program. The ATDH is built in accordance with the *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing.* Criterion-related validity evidence will be made available in the future, as data become available.
Additional Information	Please see the ATDH website: ADA.org/ATDH